

Saint Bernard Cemetery

New Haven, Connecticut | Initial research edition | September 8, 2026



A guide to the recovered references

This edition contains 39 cemetery references and leads, five historical page images, and 26 sources and custodians. It is a starting collection, not a complete cemetery register.

Two separate search resources accompany the cemetery entries: 242,757 New Haven city death-index rows and 605 early Christ Church/St. John's burial-source rows. Neither set is a list of confirmed Saint Bernard burials.

Original death certificates, burial permits, an authenticated internal plot map and the complete Hale survey have not been obtained. Saint Bernard has a current management office; this archive does not assert that its records were lost.

Search, read and compare

Unzip the whole folder and open START_HERE.html. Choose a dataset before interpreting results. Search a name, spelling variant, year or section clue. Open supporting pages and compare the original source.

Use the editable workbook for cemetery entries, related records, source catalog and candidate index matches. CSV/JSON exports support other research tools; the SQLite database provides structured tables and full-text search. Workbook changes do not update the other files automatically.

Evidence that needs careful handling

A source-reported burial is different from a certified interment record. A future-tense obituary describes a planned burial. A memorial inscription may refer to someone whose remains were never moved. Search-index leads are preliminary until checked against the full source.

The S1 supplementary table includes raw dates, aliases, uncertain entries and one row recalling five infants. Its 605 rows must not be reported as 605 distinct Saint Bernard graves. Rows 89 and 100 refer to later Saint Bernard stones for John New and Patrick Fury.

Keep blank and partial dates as they are. Plot clues are reported wording only; no internal coordinate system has been established. Do not transfer section maps from the Saint Bernard cemeteries in Rockville or Enfield.

Surviving records to request

1. Cemetery office

Saint Bernard: 520 Columbus Avenue, New Haven. Management: Saint Lawrence Cemetery, 280 Derby Avenue, West Haven; (203) 624-3980. Request the interment register, lot index, burial cards, grave-opening records and all map/renumbering keys. Source SB-S001.

2. Hale inscription survey

New Haven Museum MSS 23: Box 2, folders D-F, pages 1157-1411. Index: Box 3, folders A-C, pages 1678-2157. Library copy Ref F104.N6 H244. Hale cemetery code 215-6. The inventory has been verified; inscription pages themselves have not yet been copied. Sources SB-S002-S004.

3. Military burial lists

New Haven Museum MSS 80, Box 26. The inventory lists Civil War Saint Bernard burials and World War I casualties returned to city cemeteries. Ask for original page context and any dates, lot numbers or source references. Source SB-S005.

4. Death and burial certificates

Use the New Haven death index to identify candidates, then request the underlying certificate from the correct jurisdiction. Ask the Vital Statistics office separately about historical burial, disinterment and removal permits. Sources SB-S006-S007. Unsent request drafts are included.

History, plots and image rights

A date discrepancy worth preserving

O'Donnell's 1900 history, printed page 336, describes land bought June 28, 1851 and blessed as Saint Bernard on September 1, 1851; the 2019 Aronsen article refers to consecration in 1854. These accounts are retained as a discrepancy to investigate, not combined into a false exact chronology. Sources SB-S008-S009.

Plot clues, not a plot plan

Harding's priests' lot and Murphy's Civil War section are explicit source references. Contributed memorial leads mention Section F, Avenue 1 Lot 14F for Andrew Dwyer; Soldiers Plot, Section F, Grave 9 for Francis Alexander Pesta; and Section G for Mary McDermott. None has been authenticated against the current cemetery plan.

Reuse and attribution

The five 1900 book scans and their OCR are public domain in the United States; credit O'Donnell and University of Connecticut Libraries / Internet Archive. The orphanage plate is historical context, not an image of Saint Bernard Cemetery.

Aronsen et al. (2019), PLoS ONE 14(9): e0219279, and its S1 table are reproduced under CC BY 4.0. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0219279>. The original PDFs are unchanged; SGC prepared structured rows and previews. The article contains scientific images of skeletal remains.

Modern obituaries, newsletter items and marker photographs remain linked to their publishers. No original newspaper clipping images or individual grave photographs were downloaded in this edition. The source catalog records access and rights limits.

Citation

Silent Grounds Collective, Saint Bernard Cemetery, New Haven Research Archive, SGC-SB-002, September 8, 2026. <https://ctcemetrycollective.org/collections/saint-bernard-cemetery> . Add the record ID and original evidence URL.